value added products. In this connection software, computers and office machines, textiles and garments, engineering products, especially automotive components, electrical machinery, leather goods, gems & jewellery and cattle feed have been identified to have good prospects for our exports. Trade promotion efforts include meetings between trade officials on the two sides, interaction between business delegations, encouraging participation in Fairs and Exhibitions in Australia, etc. The forthcoming meeting of the Indo Australia Joint Business Council which is scheduled to coincide with the activities being organised by Australia under the New Horizons Programme in India would also contribute towards boosting trade with Australia.

Units of Keltron

1206. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for taking over of two units of Keltron in Mulakummathukam Trichur district by BHEL; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). In July'95, a proposal was received from the State Government of Kerala for takeover of two units of Keltron of Mulakummathukam, Trichur district.

BHEL deputed a team of experts for a thorough study on the proposal of takeover of M/s Keltron Power Device Ltd., and M/s Keltron Rectifiers. On analysis of the information received form these two companies, the experts' team came to the conclusion that since the Product range, customer profile and the technological status of these two units were at variance with those of BHEL & their products were of low value and low margin in nature, it would not be in the business interest of BHEL to take over these two units. Accordingly, BHEL has decided against such a takeover.

Recommendation of Chief Justices of High Courts

1207. SHRI JAG MOHAN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the main recommendation made in the recent Conference of the Chief Justices of High Courts;

(b) the number of recommendations accepted and how many have not been accepted so far; and

(c) the reasons for not accepting all the recommendations so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) No Conference of the Chief Justices of High Courts has been held recently. The last Conference took place on 3rd, 5th & 6th December, 1993 at New Delhi.

(b) and (c). The Regulations which concerned the Central Government related mainly to improvement in service conditions which have largely been accepted. Others, which related to court management, were to be implemented by the High Courts themselves.

Popular Deposit Scheme

1208. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to promote deposits under the National Savings Schemes;

(b) whether the provision for investment by institutions in popular deposit schemes under National Schemes is withdrawn; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The steps to encourage more deposits include attractive returns, extension of tax concessions, publicity and incentives to agents. A part from Central Government, wide publicity of these schemes is also undertaken by the State Governments and extension agencies like standardised Agency Systems (SAS), PPF agents and Mahila Pradhan Kshetriya Bachat Yojana (MPKBY) agents.

(b) Investments by the institutions in Kisan Vikas Patras, Post Office Time Deposit Accounts and National Savings Certificates have been discontinued with effect from 1.4.95.

However, investment by Trusts, Charitable Endowments, Regimental Funds and Welfare funds will continue.

(c) Small Savings Schemes are essentially meant to mobilise savings of individuals and encourage a habit of thrift among them. Recently, there had been increasing recourse to these schemes by institutions for whom these schemes were not originally intended.

Small Saving Schemes

1209. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to promote small saving schemes;

(b) if so, the number of small saving schemes introduced in the different States; and

(c) the steps taken to further promote small saving schemes?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Govt. is implementing many programmes for promotion of small savings schemes.

(b) There are 11 on-going small savings schemes. The details are indicated in the enclosed statement.

(c) The steps to encourage more deposits include attractive returns, extension of tax concessions, publicity and commission to agents. Apart from Central Government, wide publicity of these Schemes is also undertaken by the State Governments and extension agencies like Standardised Agency Systems (SAS), PPF agents and Mahila Pradhan Kshatriya Bachat Yojana (MPKBY) agents. Publicity media include radio, TV, news papers, boardings; banners, posters, pamphlets, film shows, and incentive schemes.

STATEMENT

Small Savings Schemes Currently in Force

	Name of the Scheme	Interest % p.a.	Current Description for current rate of interest
1.	@ Post Office Savings Account	5.5	Simple (individual account)
2.	* Post Office Recurring Deposit (5 years)	12.5	Compounded quarterly (maturity value is Rs. 833.40 for Rs. 10 denomination)
3.	* Post Office Monthly Income Scheme (6 years)	13.00	Payable monthly plus bonus at 10% of deposit at the end of 6 years
4.	* Post Office Time Deposit		Compounded quarterly & payable annually
	(a) 1 Year Deposit	10.5	
	(b) 2 Year Deposit	11	
	(c) 3 Year Deposit	12	
	(d) 5 Year Deposit	12.5	
5.	* N.S.C., VIII issue (6 years)	12	Compounded half yearly (maturity value is Rs. 201.50 for Rs. 100 denomination)
6.	** National Savings Scheme 1992 (4 years)	11	Payable annually
7.	@ Deposit Scheme for Retiring Govt. Employees (3 years)	10	Payable half-yearly
8.	@ Deposit Scheme for Retiring Employees of PSUs (3 years)	10	Payable half-yearly
9.	Indira Vikas Patra	13.43	Amount doubles in 5½ years
10.	Kisan Vikas Patra	13.43	Amount doubles in 5½ years
11.	@ Public Provident Fund Scheme (15 years)	12	Calculated on monthly balances

Legends :

* Benefit under Section 80L available

** Benefit under Section 88 & 80L available

@ Interest completely tax free

[Translation]

Benches of High Court in M.P.

1210. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposal recently to the Union Government regarding setting up of a bench of High Court in Bhopal and other places in the State; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.